Viewership of Doordashan programmes in Tamil Nadu

1022. SHRI THIRUNAVUKKARASU G. VENKATRAMAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dubbing of Hindi dramas and other programmes in Tamil is having good response or otherwise in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the finding thereof and what is the next step to be taken by the Ministry to boost these programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) There is a mixed reaction to the dubbing of sponsored programmes in Tamil done by private products on their own initiative.

(b) Doordarshan has no proposal under consideration to insist on dubbing of sponsored serial.

Commercialisatin of film institue

1023. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the 'Hindu' of 10th July, 1994 under the caption "Film Institute going commercial". and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in respect thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Government have seen the news item. The Filf and Television Institute of India being a registered society and autonomous is free to take its own decisions. Government do not normaly interfere in its functioning. It may however be added that the steps taken by the Institute in generating more internal resources are in line with the new economic policy of liberalisation, elimination of non-essential subsidies etc.

Increasing the number of channels in Doordarsshan

1024. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whehtr there is any proposal to increase the number of channels in Doordarshan programme; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are a number of proposals on which Doordarshan is experimenting on the 5 transponders of INSAT 2B, will a view to provide programming to cater to the diverse interests of the widest cross section of its viewers.

Earmarking Doordarshan channel for State sponsored Telecast

1025. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received for earmarking at least one Doordarshan Channel for telecast to be sponsored by State Governments;

(b) whether state and regional channels of this nature will not be conductive to the development of the diverse culture the nation takes pride in; and

(c) whether, in view of the accepted policy of liberalisation, the Government will not stand in the way in case individual State Governments start their own transmitting stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.